Restructuring ICAR

2048. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are holding consultations to restructure the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to make the organization more stronger in the agriculture research considering its role in the national economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government want the ICAR to develop scientist-entrepreneur scheme on the lines of a similar scheme in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) A committee had been set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. Its report has been received on 18.07.2005, and the recommendations of the Committee are in the process of examination.

Protection of kharif crops

2049. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the delay in monsoon, kharif crops like pulses, oilseeds and cereals have been affected;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to protect the interest of the farmers due to this factor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The behaviour of monsoon was erratic in the month of June, 2005 and at the all India level the cumulative